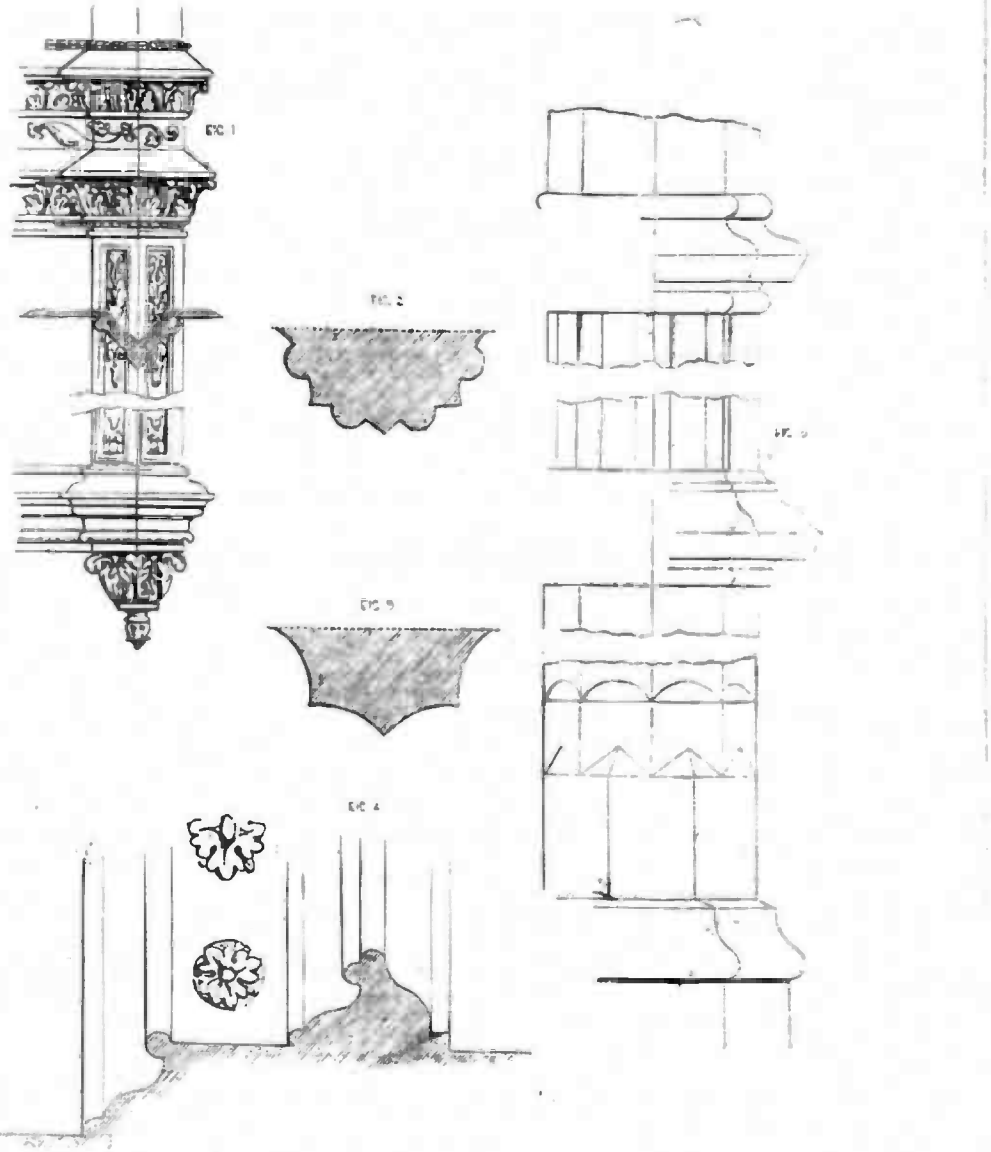
DETAILS OF ENTRANCE TO MONTACUTE HOUSE.



ounded by foliage, is very effective, and well deserving study.

References.

Fig. 1. Compartment containing shield.
2. Plan—upper string.
3. Plan—lower string.
4. Section through panel, containing shield.
5. Angle buttresses.

THE CULTIVATION OF ARCHITECTURAL KNOWLEDGE.

At a time when unparalleled progress is being made in every department of art and science, when literature has assumed universal sway over the mind of mankind, and consequently that the development of the human intellect is making the most rapid onward strides, a few words may be said on the general and elevating moral tendencies of architecture. Men talk of the poetry of painting, and of the poetry of sculpture (and well I own are they worthy of such terms); is not that, then, which produces on the human mind such an idea of grandeur and sublimity as a magnificent architectural pile, worthy of an equal title? Was not his a master mind, and one endowed in the highest degree with poetical refinement, who suspended in air the stupendous dome of St. Peter's? And they, who earlier reared those mighty edifices, the cathedrals of our country, so grand and so sublime in their conception, and for a purpose worthy the noblest efforts of the genius which He, for whose glory they were raised, has bestowed upon mankind,—is there not displayed in their works ideas equally noble and exalted, as in the mighty basilica which Buonarotti raised in the capital of the Christian world? Do they not produce on the beholder a religious feeling of awe and devotion, which such places ought to inspire? Is not, then, the science of architecture worthy the cultivation of the most exalted intellects? I think that no one will deny that such is the case, and that such are the sentiments which it inspires and infuses in the human breast. The beautiful, the grand, and the sublime must tend ever to exalt the mind of the beholder, and must, therefore, tend vastly to humanise mankind, and be productive of the happiest results on the pursuits, and, consequently, on the character of a nation. Why, then, I ask, not pay greater attention to the more general cultivation of so intellectual and refining a pursuit? If, in the history of the past, we study the general and gradual development of the social condition of man, do we not in architecture study history itself, and the causes which progressively led to that development? Are not the pyramids of Egypt ever-enduring examples? Do not the long-buried cities of Herculaneum and Pompeii convey to us distinctly the character and customs of their inhabitants? If such, then, are its attributes and tendencies, why not, now that the question of the establishment of schools of design, &c. has been taken up by those connected with the legislature of this country, establish also colleges and schools to be devoted to the study and cultivation of the science of architecture? Is not the design of a building equally worthy attention as its decoration? Surely the latter is but a subordinate part, and ought, therefore, to be considered as merely a branch of the former. No doubt that annually many gifted minds, which might rank with the most talented men of the day, and reflect honour on the country, are suffered to be neglected from the want of such an institution to call their latent talents into action. Now that private architectural institutions are springing up in most of our large towns and cities, and that private enterprise is doing so much to promote the best interests of that art, would it not be worthy the legislature government of the "queen of nations" to take some steps towards its advancement and cultivation?

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